

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

January 16, 2002 LB 824

acts, that killer could now be prosecuted for two crimes, killing Vickie and killing the dog. But in the North Platte case, the second victim was not the family dog. The second victim was baby Jackielee and no one will ever be prosecuted for the death of that baby. What could be more telling than the front page of the North Platte Telegraph on the day that the story broke about the Vickie Soto murder. The lead story obviously was all about this horrible crime against Vickie, the details and so forth, as grizzly as they were. And the article quotes the local county attorney who laments the fact that he will never be able to prosecute for the death of that baby. On the very same page of newsprint, we learn of Mr. Richard Endicott (phonetic) who was just sentenced to 60 days in the Lincoln County jail and 120 days of electronic monitoring after his release...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR FOLEY: ...from jail and a \$2000 fine. Why is Mr. Endicott going to jail? Why is he being electronically monitored and paying a \$2000 fine? Mr. Endicott killed a cat. Why I like cats and I like dogs and I'm glad we've got laws on our books that protect them, but I think we can open up our hearts and also extend our laws to protect the unborn. Twenty-seven states have now enacted laws that give legal protection to the unborn, and those laws generally apply under the title of fetal homicide laws. Those laws have been litigated and litigated and there has not been one court decision that has overturned those laws to my knowledge. And if I'm wrong, I will correct the record, but I am not aware of a single court decision that has challenged those laws. Last year the United States House of Representatives marked up a bill on fetal homicide relating to crimes committed by federal personnel.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, I have amendments to the bill. By rule, the first amendment I have to be considered, Senator Foley, AM2322. (Legislative Journal pages 242-245.)